RON THORNBURGH Secretary of State



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Media Release

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Local Heroes to Gather for Topeka WalkAmerica Kickoff

(TOPEKA, KANSAS, JANUARY 14, 2002) – High-spirited Topeka residents will take the first step towards saving babies in 2002 when they come to the WalkAmerica Kickoff Luncheon on January 30.

Led by Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh, the 2002 WalkAmerica Chair, these community leaders are excited about volunteering for WalkAmerica. "I like knowing that what I do makes a difference," said Grace Ann Dunn of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas, who has participated in WalkAmerica for 15 years. "When I participate in WalkAmerica, it is one of the best feelings in the world because I am helping to save babies right here in Topeka. Coming to the WalkAmerica kickoff gets me enthused and in the spirit," she said.

For more information on the upcoming Kickoff or WalkAmerica, the walk that has been saving babies for 32 years, contact the March of Dimes office at 785-228-0084. Everyone who participates in WalkAmerica becomes a hero for babies.

The March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education, and advocacy to save babies.